



Telltale

Saratoga Lake Sailing Club

Web page: sailsaratoga.org



March, 2008

From the Commodore

By James Nicol

Although the closest most of us get to sailing at this time of year is SAIL magazine, YouTube or the Telltale, spring is almost here, and over the past two months, there has been a flurry of activity to get the sailing club pointed in the right direction for an enjoyable and productive 2008 and beyond. And we need your help!!

The recent budget meeting was the most significant we've had for some time. As I wrote in a recent e-mail and the January Telltale, the Board proposed and the membership approved an ambitious set of objectives for the year, and Bruce Blackie's article in this edition of the Telltale describes what we aim to achieve.

Our club only runs through the efforts of you, our members. Project Leaders are in place but they may be looking for help, so please offer your time and talents to one or more of them. If you've indicated an area to help in the annual dues application, great. Or, if you'd like to contact one of the following folks who have the major projects and responsibilities to join their team, that would be appreciated as well.

House & Lower Barn	Vic Roberts
Grounds & Upper Barn	Tony Cannone
Waterfront	Allan Miller & Dave Hudson
Social	Shirley Waterfield
Race	Paul Waterfield
Sailing Program	Tony Bianchini
Boats	Peter Renders

Its going to be a busy year: by year-end the house and upper barn should look fantastic, the lower barn will be repaired (as long as a final inspection produces no

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Dues Notice Printing Error

Due to a printing error in the recently mailed 2008 Dues Notice, the Volunteering section was printed over by the mailing address. To correct the problem, this information is included on page 3 of this issue. If you have not sent in your dues sheet yet, please fill out the volunteering information and send it along with the remittance sheet to Bruce Blackie. If you have already sent your dues in, please complete the volunteering information and send it separately to Barbara & Alan Miller. Thanks.

Annual Budget Meeting

By Bruce Blackie, Treasurer

The annual budget meeting of the Saratoga Lake Sailing Club was held on Sunday, February 10, and the members in attendance approved the Club's 2008 operational budget and the special projects budget as proposed by the Executive Board. The dues structure and boat fees, which are the major income components for the Club, are unchanged from last year. No significant increases in the Club's operational expenses are forecasted, and the ten-year mortgage associated with the major kitchen renovation and 17' Boston Whaler purchase will be paid off mid-year. The result is a comfortable operating surplus which is available for undertaking an ambitious special projects agenda.

A major special project will be the much needed exterior painting and repair of the Clubhouse. This effort will include the purchase of new replacement storm windows

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Commodore's Party

Friday, April 25th

at

Manna's Restaurant & Banquet House
Balston Spa, NY

Cocktails at 6:30 PM

Dinner at 7:30 PM

RSVP to your written invitation
by April 18th if you plan on attending.

Upcoming Events

Mar 13.....Board Meeting
Apr 25.....Commodore's Party
May 3.....Spring Work Party #1

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and screens that are color-keyed to the house and will improve our winter heating efficiency. The kitchen stove/grill hood venting system is scheduled for an upgrade to eliminate the smoke filled room problem which plagued the Wednesday evening post race potluck and other member get-togethers. Additional house projects include improvements to the furnace flues, the basement drainage and the water system.

Another major expenditure which received considerable discussion was the recommendation by the Board to repair the lower barn rather than demolish it. The Board's recommendation was based on an analysis that the cost to repair and the cost of demolition plus lost winter storage revenue were very close to break even. Several members expressed concern that the repair costs might be significantly understated and that demolition costs are a one-time expense while future barn maintenance costs will be ongoing. Members in attendance were assured that the repair work would proceed only after a clean bill of health from a structural inspection and final firm confirmation of the repair quotes in hand. A vote was taken to keep the lower barn repair in the special projects budget with only one negative vote.

Another special project item, to paint and maintain the upper barn, was less controversial as the big barn is a much used and very visible part of the Club infrastructure. Other special projects on the Club's grounds include road and boat park improvements, the purchase of a new tractor, and the completion of the upgraded electrical service to the waterfront area. The dock replacement program will be continued with the construction of two new floating dock sections. Also, four used Optimist dinghies will be purchased for the Junior Sailing Program.

The total cost of the 2008 proposed special projects exceeds the operating surplus by a considerable margin and the Executive Board proposed a financing strategy utilizing a secured line of credit to meet current and future funding needs. The line of credit will replace the paid-off conventional mortgage and provide funds for member approved projects only as and when needed. This will reduce financing costs versus a conventional mortgage where all funds must be borrowed up front, regardless of need.

As you can see, this is a very ambitious agenda and the Board members charged with the responsibility to complete the many projects will be looking to the membership for help and assistance. Professional contractors will be used to complete the majority of the special projects, but there is always a need for an extra pair of hands to do coordination, follow-up and miscellaneous project assistance. Please give the appropriate Flag Lieutenant a call if you can volunteer some of your time for these significant Club facility improvements.

If you were unable to attend the budget meeting and would like to have a copy of the operational budget and special projects presentation material, please give me a phone call or email.

From the Commodore (Continued from Page 1)

surprises), there will be better ventilation in the kitchen, and a number of other improvements made, some that you will see, some you won't, but all of which are essential to our enjoyment of SLSC for years to come.

Thanks in advance for your help. Only 10 weeks now to the first race of the Zephyr series. We can make it!

Revised Mooring Guidelines

By Dave Hudson, Rear Commodore

The mooring guidelines which are published on the Club website have been updated based on questions we have received and our experience in the administration of the mooring area.

One very important change is that the mooring waiting list request line has been removed from the Dues Renewal Notice. It has been replaced by a Request for Mooring form which can be printed from the website or obtained from the Rear Commodore. This change means that a member can request a mooring at any time of the year and at the same time provide important information relating to the specifications of the member's boat.

Other changes provide for a July 15th use it or lose it deadline for members that do not place a boat on their assigned mooring, and outline the priority by which new mooring assignments will be made.

If you presently have a mooring assignment or have an interest in a future mooring assignment, you should review the revised mooring area guidelines.

The Physics of Sailing

Interested in learning the scientific principles that govern how sailboats move? Then check out the following link:

http://ptonline.aip.org/journals/doc/PHTOAD-ft/vol_61/iss_2/38_1.shtml

Member-Sponsored Events

By Vic Roberts, Flag Lt. House

I would like to remind members that the SLSC house and grounds are available for use by members and their guests all year. The club has established rules for such member-sponsored events in order to prevent conflict with club activities, to protect the club property and to insure that one member-sponsored event does not conflict with another.

Detailed rules for member-sponsored events can be found in the SLSC Member Manual or on the SLSC website under Member Manual – Policies – Rules for member-sponsored events. The following link will take you directly to the right page on the website: http://www.sailsaratoga.org/manual/member_sponsored.html. You do not even have to log in with your username and password to view the on-line Member Manual! The following is a short summary of the official rules.

All member-sponsored events must be sponsored by a Regular, Student or Honorary member in good standing. **The sponsoring member must be present at the club throughout the entire event and is responsible for the conduct of all guests at the event, and for clean-up of the house, including the kitchen, after the event.**

In addition, the sponsoring member is also responsible for ensuring that the club's alcohol policy is followed by all guests. The policy prohibits serving alcohol to minors, and expects members and their guests to drink responsibly. All unused alcohol brought to SLSC for an event should be removed afterwards and any kegs secured. Full details regarding the SLSC alcohol policy can be found in the July 2007 edition of "Telltale" and will shortly be added to the Policy section of the Member Manual on the SLSC website.

Use of the club facilities by 8 to 14 people for a daytime activity or 3 or 4 people for an overnight event requires notification of Flag Lt. House. Use by 15 to 30 people for a daytime event or 5 to 10 people for an overnight event requires approval of Flag Lt. House. Use by more than 30 people for a daytime event or 10 people for an overnight activity requires both a written impact statement and approval of the Executive Committee. There is no charge for use of the facilities if all attendees are club members. For mixed groups of members and non-members, there are nominal per day and per night fees that depends upon the size of the group, the number of non-members, and the season of the year. All payments for use of the facilities should be sent to the SLSC Treasurer, Bruce Blackie. Please see the member-sponsored event policy on the web site for complete information.

Please contact me at 518-3990-4410 or slsc_house@sailsaratoga.org if you are planning or would like to plan a member-sponsored event.

The following information was accidentally overwritten on the 2008 Notice of Dues. Please fill it out and mail it in with your dues, or if you have already sent in your dues, mail it separately to:

**Barbara and Allan Miller
334 Brownell Road
Ballston Spa, NY 12020**

Volunteering

One of the great strengths of our club is the active participation of the members in the running of the club.

Please check those areas in which you'd like to help out, in addition to the annual work parties:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Club Regattas | <input type="checkbox"/> House Maint. | <input type="checkbox"/> Assist Race Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boat & Engine Maintenance | <input type="checkbox"/> Grounds Maint. | <input type="checkbox"/> Waterfront Maint. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assist with Social Functions | <input type="checkbox"/> Dock, Rack Maint. | <input type="checkbox"/> Assist TellTale / Publicity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Junior/Adult Sailing Program | | |

Please indicate any professional skills that you have and are willing to share with our club – Thank You

2008 OFFICERS & CHAIRPERSONS

Commodore.....	James Nicol
slsc_commodore@sailsaratoga.org.....	449-3537
Vice Commodore.....	Tony Bianchini
slsc_vicecommodore@sailsaratoga.org.....	583-4514
Rear Commodore.....	Dave Hudson
slsc_rearcommodore@sailsaratoga.or.....	370-4894
Secretary.....	John Kimball
slsc_secretary@sailsaratoga.org.....	439-1174
Treasurer.....	Bruce Blackie
slsc_treasurer@sailsaratoga.org.....	583-0759
Flag Lt. Boats.....	Peter Renders
slsc_boats@sailsaratoga.org.....	583-7855
Flag Lt. Grounds.....	Tony Cannone
slsc_grounds@sailsaratoga.org.....	271-0246
Flag Lt. House.....	Vic Roberts
slsc_house@sailsaratoga.org.....	399-4410
Flag Lt. Race.....	Paul Waterfield
slsc_race@sailsaratoga.org.....	584-5552
Membership.....	Allan Miller & Barbara Prince-Miller
slsc_membership@sailsaratoga.org.....	885-5510
Newsletter/Publicity.....	Fred Barker
slsc_publicity@sailsaratoga.org.....	355-7581
Sailing Program.....	Tony Bianchini
slsc_sailingpgm@sailsaratoga.org.....	583-4514
Social.....	Shirley Waterfield
slsc_social@sailsaratoga.org.....	584-5552
Historian.....	Randall Rice
.....	785-7965
House Attendant.....	Kathy Johnston
kmorrisjohnston@aol.com.....	583-9646
House Phone.....	584-9659

SARATOGA LAKE SAILING CLUB

The Saratoga Lake Sailing club promotes and develops interest in sailing and sailboat racing.

The Club cooperates with and aids individuals and groups interested in sailing and requires in return, observance of such rules and regulations as are set forth by this organization.

ACTIVE FLEETS

Ensign.....	Bruce Blackie
	583-0759
Flying Dutchman.....	Bill Hamilton
	877-5203
Flying Scot.....	Rob Tikoft
	(803) 483-2786
Hobie 17.....	Don Railton
	584-4866
Jet 14.....	Al Tedrow
	371-8765
Kestrel.....	Tony Bianchini
	583-4514
Laser.....	Alan Miller
	885-5510
Sailboards.....	Dick Blackmer
	399-0541
Thistle.....	John Hudson
	374-0228